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## NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. OSBERT SALVIN, an Honorary Member of the A. O. U., died at his residence, Hawksfold, near Haslemere, England, June 1, 1898, at the age of 63 years. In his death ornithology has sustained a great loss, and the A. O. U. one of its most eminent Honorary Members. A sketch of Mr. Salvin's life and scientific labors will be presented in a later number of this journal.

DR. GEORGE BAUR, an Associate Member of the A. O. U., died at Munich, Germany, June 24, 1898. Dr. Baur was born in Germany, but had lived many years in this country, and at the time of his death was Associate Professor of Comparative Osteology and Palæontology at the

University of Chicago, and was on a visit to his native land for recuperation and study. Dr. Baur is well known for his researches on various groups of recent and fossil reptiles, and in his special lines was an authority of high standing. His ornithological work was mainly incidental to other lines of research. His name, however, will ever be associated with the fauna of the Galapagos Archipelago, not only through his exploration of its reptilian life but of its bird life as well. His extensive ornithological collections made there in 1892, in conjunction with the late Mr. Charles F. Adams, formed the principal basis of Mr. Ridgway's recent 'Birds of the Galapagos Archipelago' to which Dr. Baur has contributed some further information and criticism (see Auk, XV, 1898, p. 207). He has also written various papers on the origin of the Galapagos Archipelago and its fauna.

MR. AND MRS. HERBERT H. SMITH, well known as expert natural history collectors through their labors in Brazil, the West Indies, and Mexico, are now in northern Colombia, with several assistants, working under the joint auspices of the Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh, Pa., and the American Museum of Natural History of New York City. Mr. Smith and his party will give special attention to insects, birds, and mammals, and will probably remain for a long time in the field, visiting other portions of northern South America after completing their work in Colombia.

MESSRS. OUTRAM AND E. A. BANGS have also an experienced collector, Mr. W. W. Brown, Jr., in the Santa Marta region of Colombia, from whom they have recently received considerable consignments of birds and mammals, preliminary notices of which have already begun to appear.

MR. GEORGE K. CHERRIE, well known to readers of 'The Auk,' for his successful work in Costa Rica and San Domingo, has been for some months engaged collecting birds and other specimens for the Hon. Walter Rothschild for the Tring Museum, in the Orinoco districts of Venezuela, where also the brothers Samuel N. and Edward Klages, of Crafton, Pa., have recently established themselves for natural history exploration, partly under the auspices of the American Museum of Natural History. While they will give their attention primarily to insects, a portion of their time will be devoted to birds and mammals.

THE HON. WALTER ROTHSCHILD has recently announced the successful return of the Frank Blake Webster expedition from the Galapagos Islands, sent out at Mr. Rothschild's suggestion. He states (Bull. Br. Orn. Club, No. LIV, p. li) that "the collection is the largest and finest yet made in that group. The collectors stayed one day at Clarion Island and procured 85 birds, among which was a fine series of the new *Sula* [*Sula websteri*] described hereafter. Of the 105 species enumerated by

Ridgway as occurring in the Galapagos Islands, good series of nearly all were obtained. . . . In addition to nearly all the species known to inhabit the Archipelago, examples of several more were obtained, some seven or eight of which are new to science." Six of these are here described, and include a flightless Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax harrisi*), "the largest known Cormorant," with "wings of about the same size as those of the Great Auk."

THE first annual meeting of the Connecticut Audubon Society was held at Fairfield, Conn., June 4, 1898. The president, Mrs. Mabel Osgood Wright, presided, and the meeting was addressed by Messrs. John H. Sage, Frank M. Chapman, and Rev. Mr. Backus of Westport.

Although the youngest of the dozen or more Audubon Societies now existing, the Connecticut organization has already reached a membership of over 300, while its financial condition will permit it to vigorously prosecute the objects for which it was formed. In awakening an interest in birds and extending popular knowledge concerning their value to man, this Society purposes to adopt a plan as yet untried by its sister Societies. Instead of expending its funds in printing and distributing leaflets, it purposes to secure a stereopticon and set of colored slides of birds, which, with lectures suitable for different audiences, will be loaned to teachers and other responsible parties throughout the State at the mere cost of transportation charges.

THE fifth edition of Chapman's 'Handbook of Birds of Eastern North America' has just been issued by its publishers D. Appleton & Co. It is printed from the same plates as the preceding edition except that the table of nesting dates on page 19 has been rewritten on the basis of additional data.

IN THE 'Report of the A. O. U. Committee on Protection of North American Birds,' printed in the January Auk, I failed to mention that the Wisconsin Bird Day law was introduced in and successfully carried through the Legislature of 1897 by Mr. John E. Morgan, member from Sauk County. Although Mr. Morgan informs me that the bill "encountered no opposition worth mentioning," yet he is entitled to the honor and credit of having placed upon the statute books of Wisconsin a most desirable law, one which I again urge upon members of the Union to have passed in all States where such a law does not now exist.—WM. DUTCHER, *N. Y. City.*